

MARVEL

GILLEN
LARROCA
DELGADO

016

STAR WARS

DARTH VADER



Book III, Part I
THE SHU-TORUN WAR

It is a time of rebuilding for the Empire. After the Death Star's destruction, Darth Vader, the Emperor's chief enforcer, struggled to keep his place after he was seemingly put in a rivalry with the cybernetically-enhanced operatives of a cyborg specialist named Cylo.

Vader was sent to the ore-rich planet Shu-Torun to bring its leadership in line. After assassinating the ruling family and installing its youngest daughter as Queen, Vader promised worse for their planet should it not fall in line.

Soon after, one of Cylo's agents, a cyborg Mon Calamari named General Karbin, laid a trap for Vader, setting the Dark Lord against a Rebel Fleet with no backup. Vader survived and made Karbin pay for his deception, but in doing so, his secret ally Doctor Aphra, was captured by rebels....

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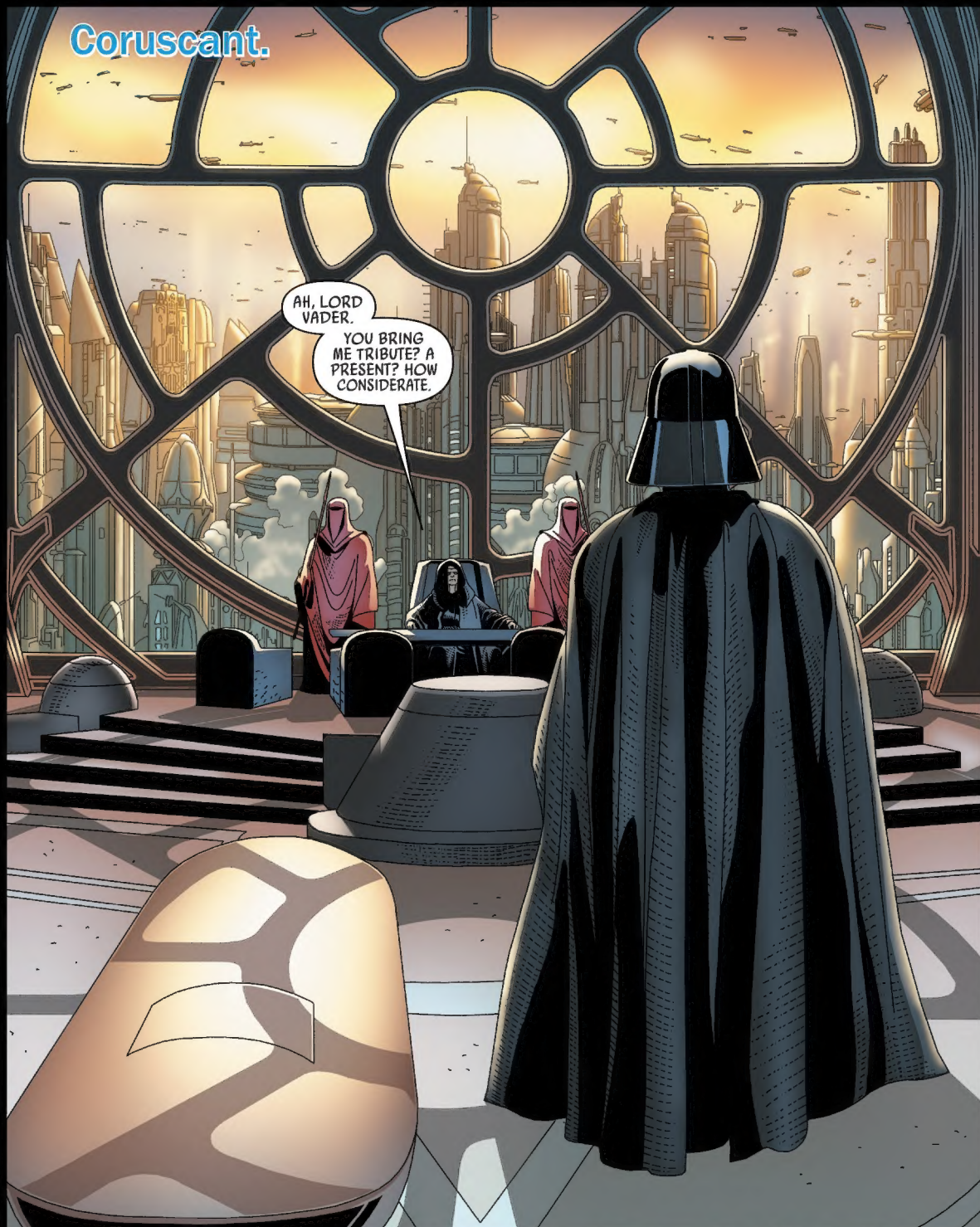
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Coruscant.

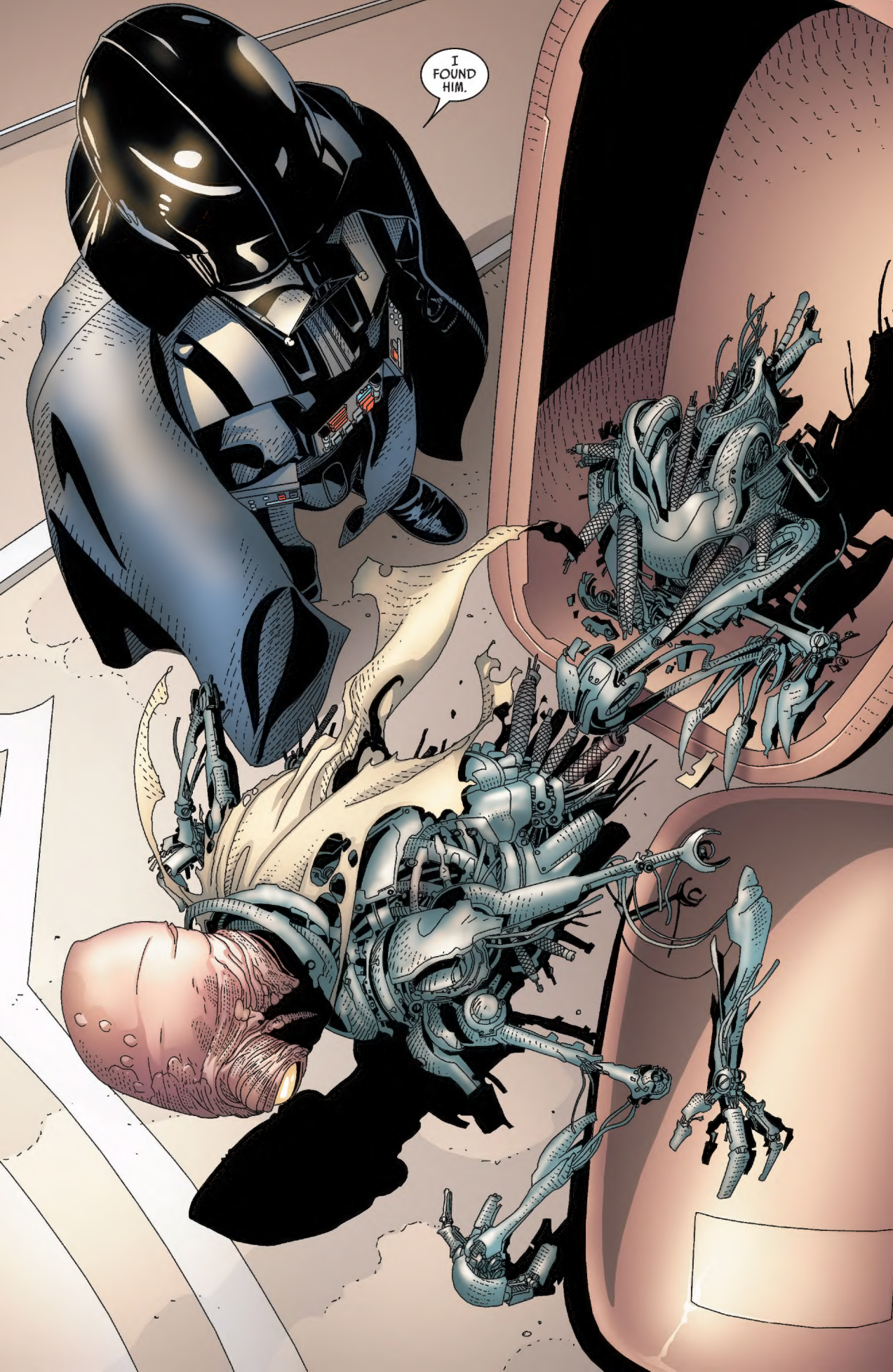
AH, LORD
VADER.

YOU BRING
ME TRIBUTE? A
PRESENT? HOW
CONSIDERATE.

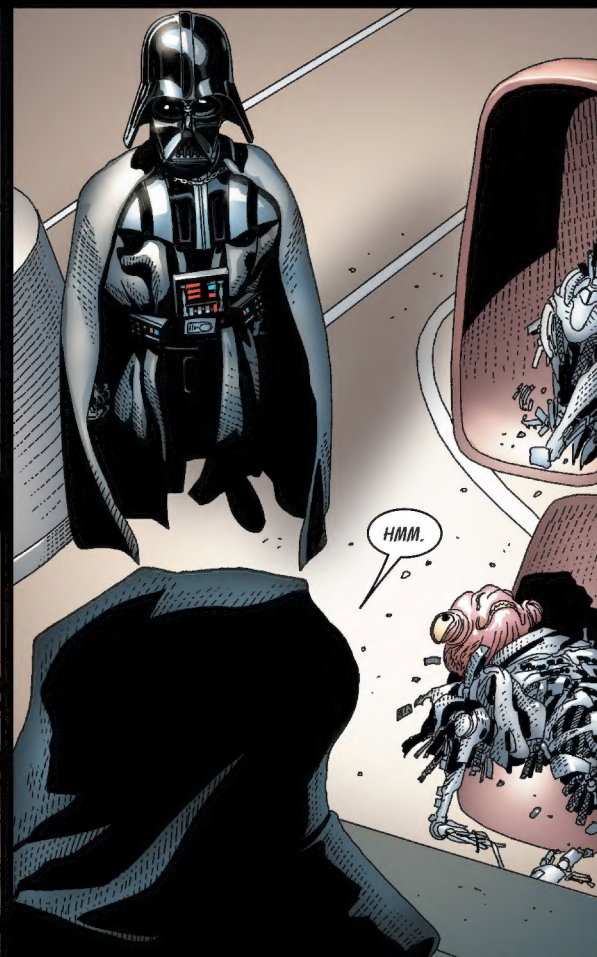
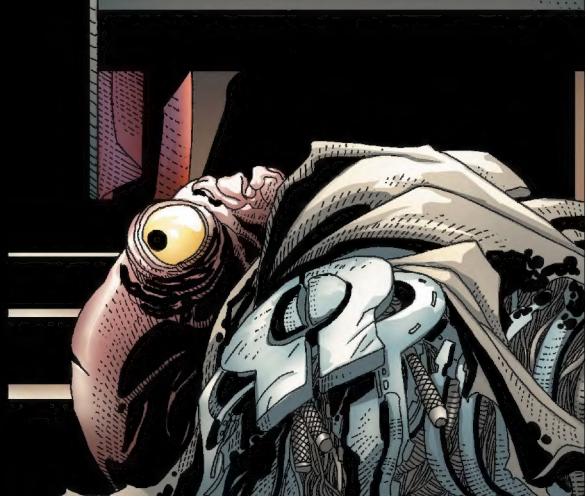
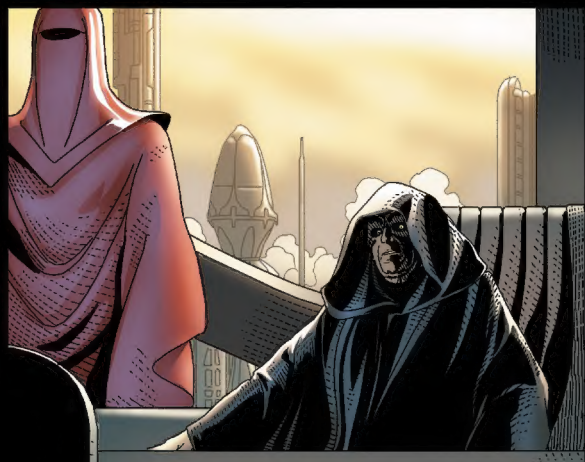


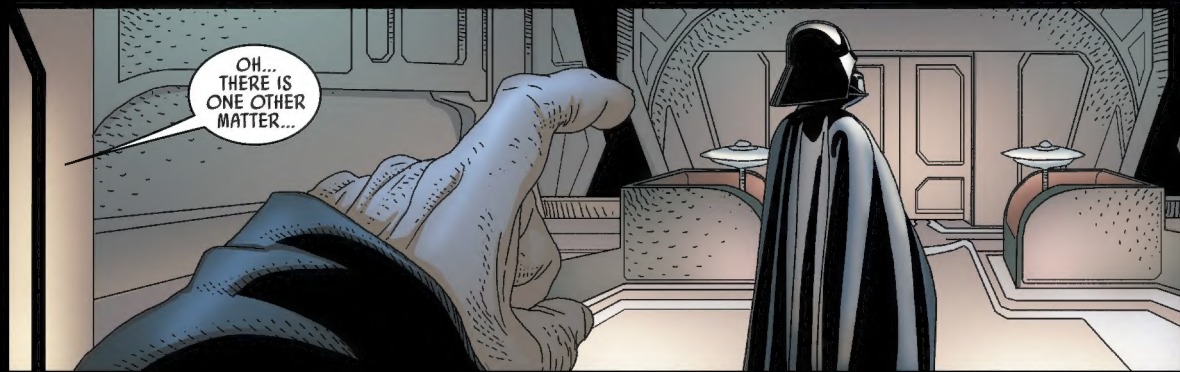
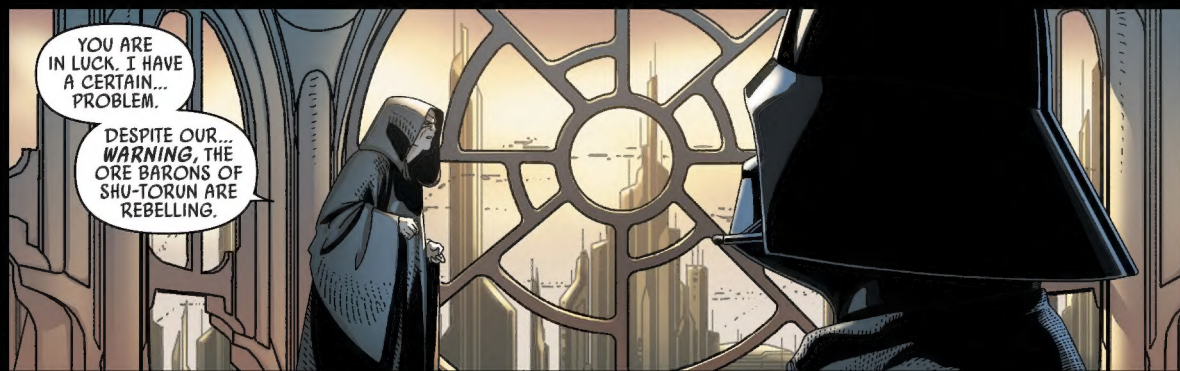
YOU HAVE
BEEN SEEKING
COMMANDER
KARBIN.





I
FOUND
HIM.







AT GRAND
GENERAL TAGGE'S
INSISTENCE, DOCTOR
CYLO WILL JOIN YOU
IN THE TASK.



WHY?



THERE IS
A REASON. YOU
ARE STUDENT
AND I AM
MASTER.

I WILL
EXPLAIN ALL
WHEN YOU RETURN
FROM THIS
TASK.



SHOW
YOUR MERIT,
VADER.



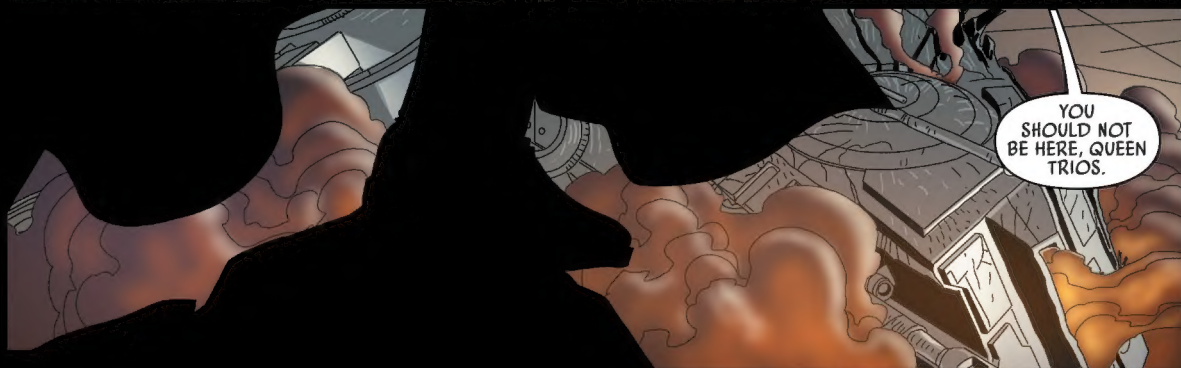
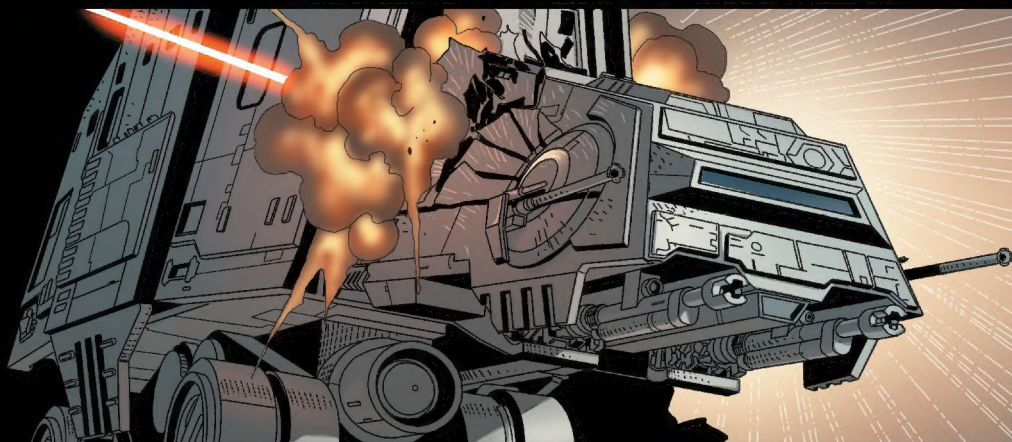
I RELY
ON YOU MORE
THAN YOU CAN
UNDERSTAND.

STAR WARS

DARTH VADER

THE SHU-TORUN WAR

Shu-torun.



YOU
SHOULD NOT
BE HERE, QUEEN
TRIOS.



THE EMPIRE IS EXPENDING CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR RULE...

IT WOULD BE TROUBLESOME TO REPLACE YOU.

THE SHU-TORUN WAR MINISTER WAS MY SISTER. SHE IS DEAD, ALONG WITH THE REST OF MY FAMILY.

I MUST FULFILL *ALL* THE ROYALTY'S ROLES. I MUST BE HERE, OR NO ONE WILL RESPECT ME.



SO AS QUEEN AND WARLORD, I SAY THIS: WE MUST RETREAT.

THE ORE-BARONS ARE TOO STRONG.



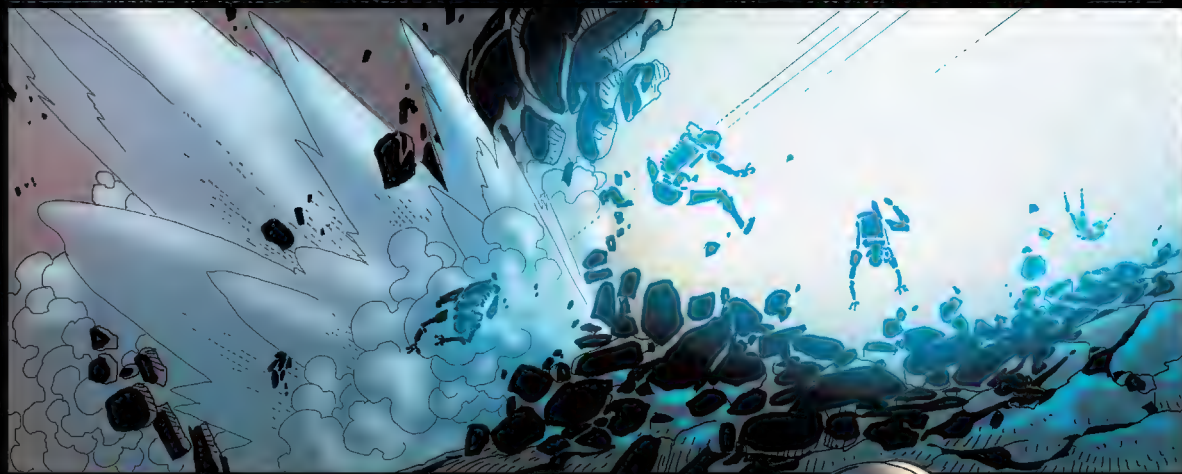
YOU UNDERSTAND NOTHING, QUEEN.

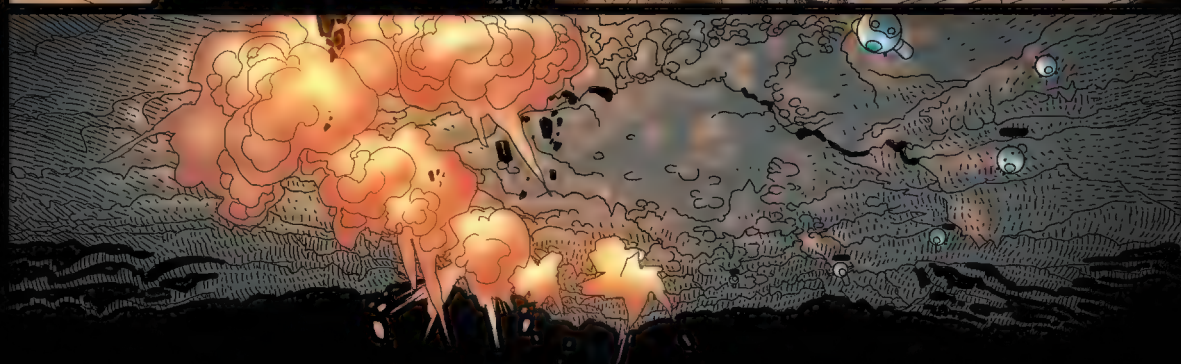
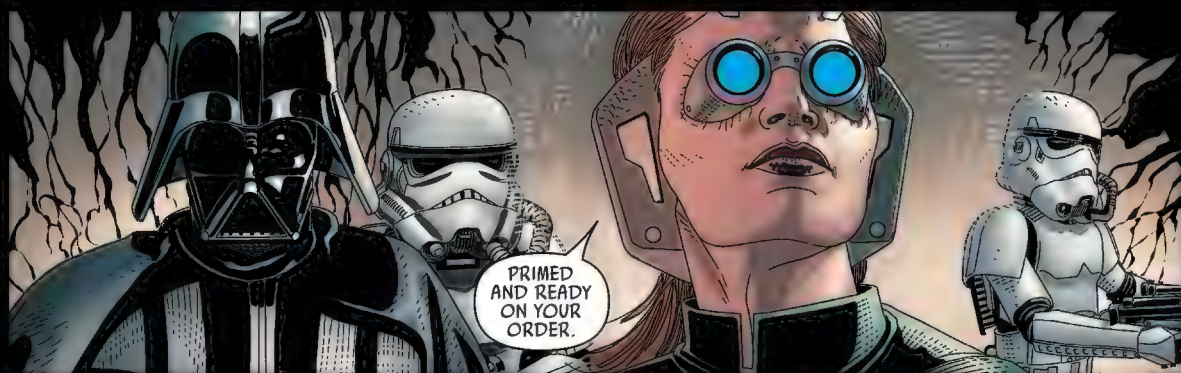
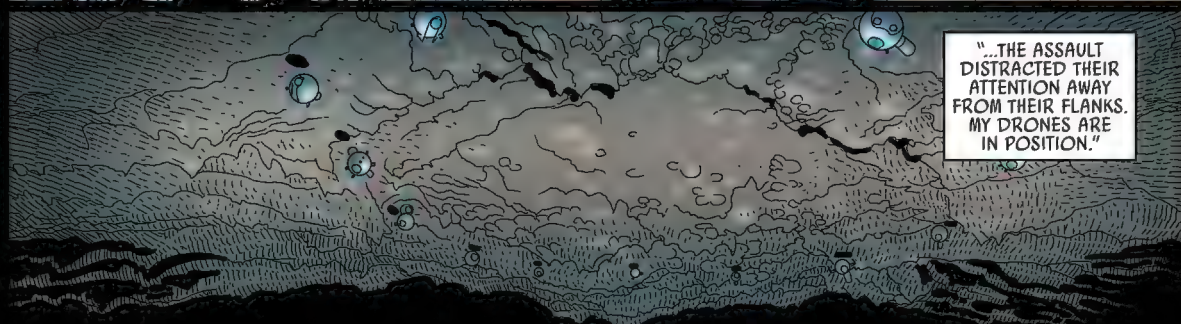


ALL THIS SERVES A PURPOSE.



THIS IS
A SHOW OF
FORCE.







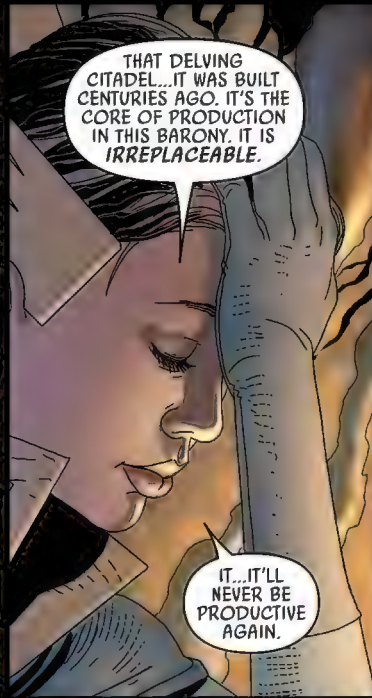


HMM. APOLOGIES,
LORD VADER.

THE ORDNANCE
WAS EXPERIMENTAL.
I WAS HOPING FOR
GREATER
DEVASTATION.



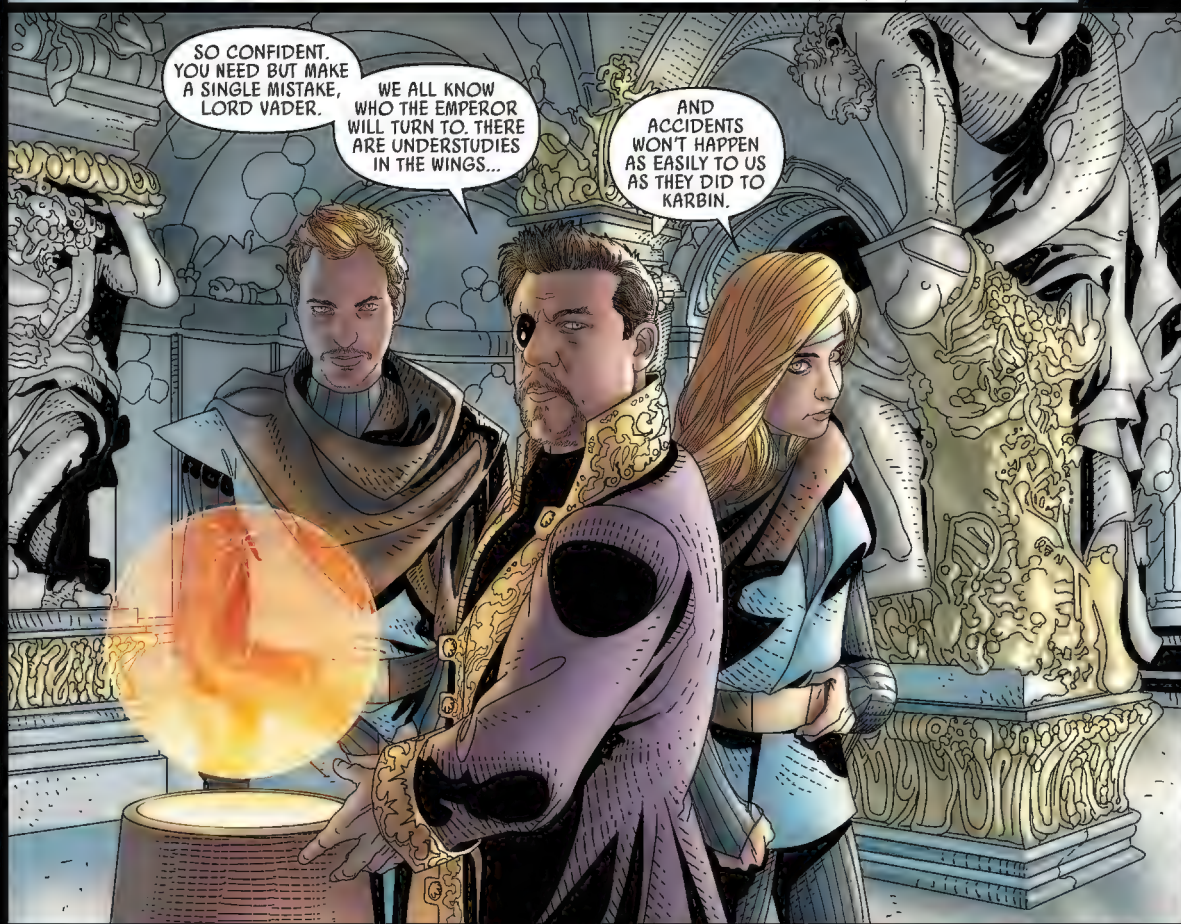
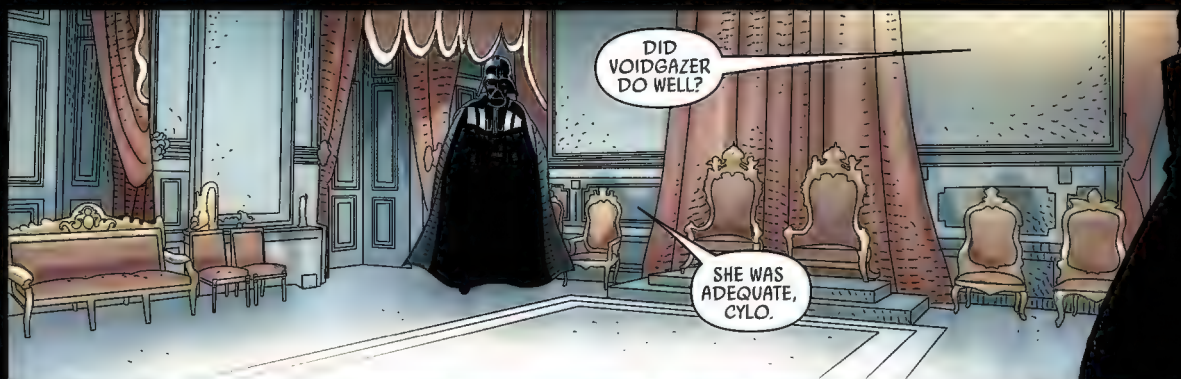
THAT DELVING
CITADEL....IT WAS BUILT
CENTURIES AGO. IT'S THE
CORE OF PRODUCTION
IN THIS BARONY. IT IS
IRREPLACEABLE.

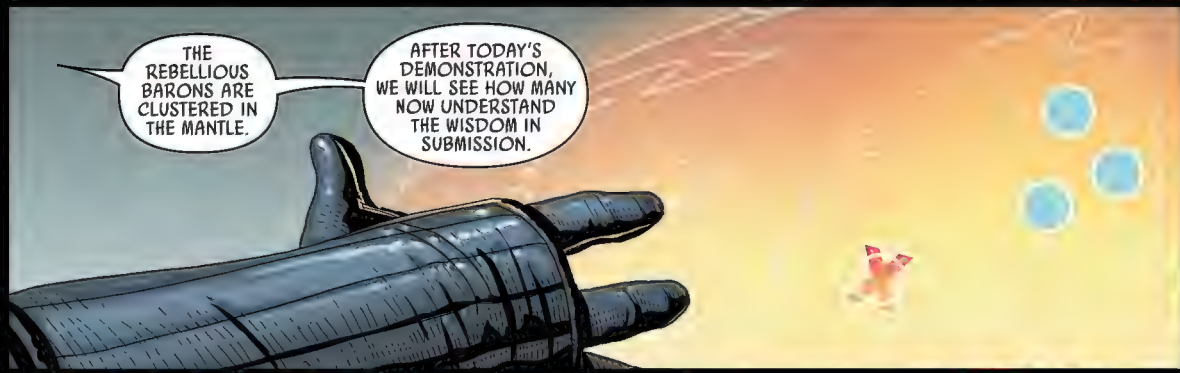


IT...IT'LL
NEVER BE
PRODUCTIVE
AGAIN.



IT WILL
NEVER REBEL
AGAIN.



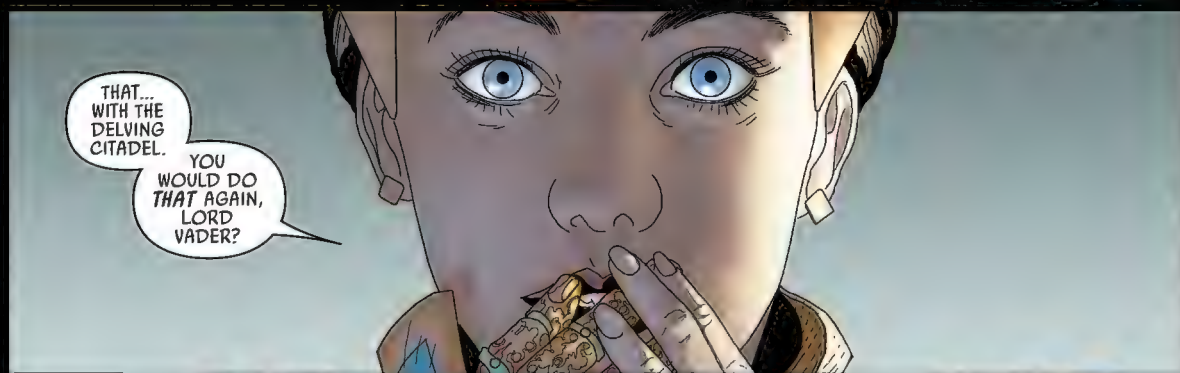


THE
REBELLIOUS
BARONS ARE
CLUSTERED IN
THE MANTLE.

AFTER TODAY'S
DEMONSTRATION,
WE WILL SEE HOW MANY
NOW UNDERSTAND
THE WISDOM IN
SUBMISSION.



IF ANY
DO NOT, WE REPEAT
THE LESSON UNTIL
THEY LEARN.



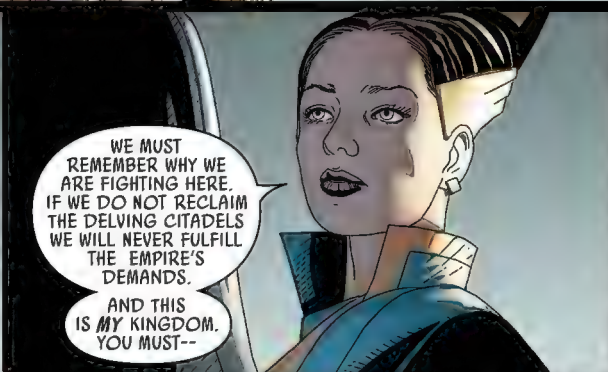
THAT...
WITH THE
DELVING
CITADEL.

YOU
WOULD DO
THAT AGAIN,
LORD
VADER?



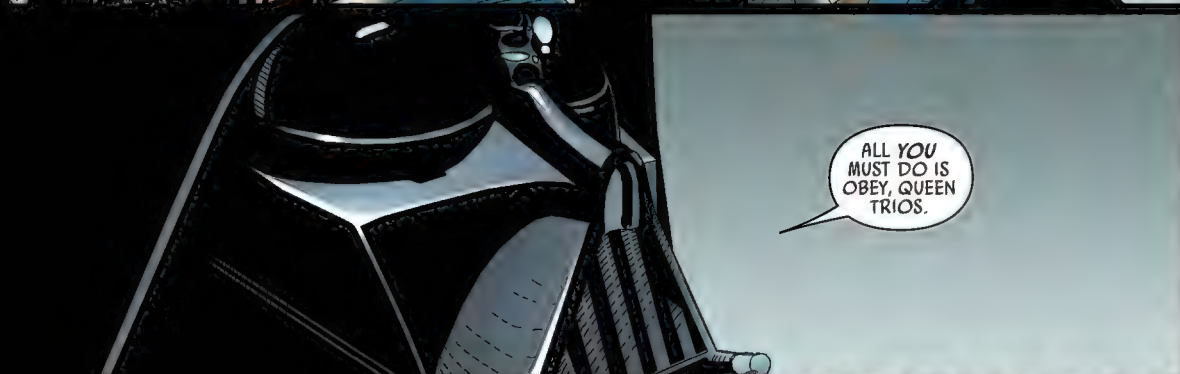
THE ORE
BARONS ARE
GREEDY. THEY WANT
THEIR RICHES.

WE WILL
SHOW THAT ANY
WHO RESIST HAVE ALL
THEIR POSSESSIONS
SWEEP AWAY.

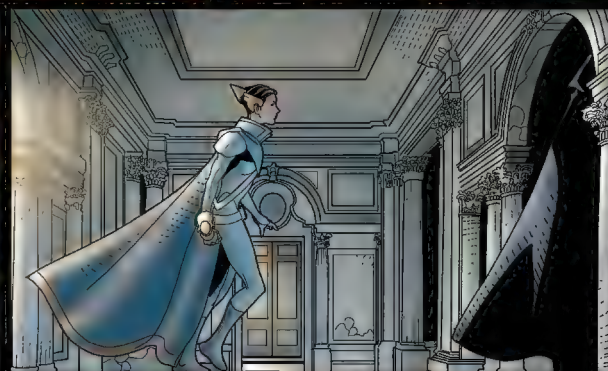
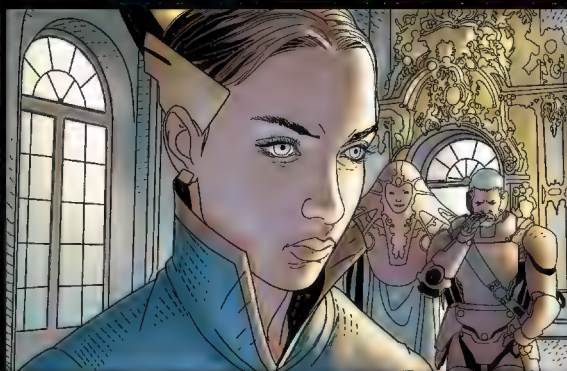
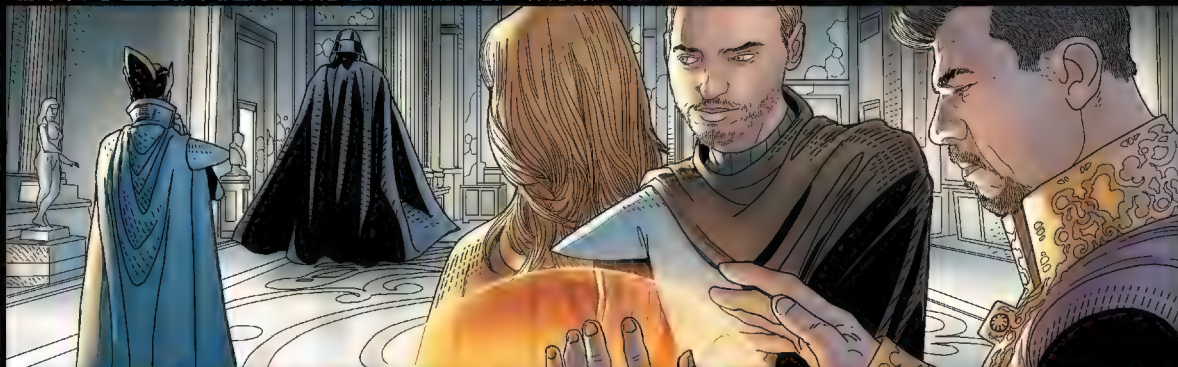


WE MUST
REMEMBER WHY WE
ARE FIGHTING HERE.
IF WE DO NOT RECLAIM
THE DELVING CITADELS
WE WILL NEVER FULFILL
THE EMPIRE'S
DEMANDS.

AND THIS
IS MY KINGDOM.
YOU MUST--



ALL YOU
MUST DO IS
OBEY, QUEEN
TRIOS.



WE...WERE
NOT **FINISHED**,
LORD VADER.
I AM **QUEEN**
HERE.



YOU
ARE.
REMEMBER
WHO MADE
YOU SO.



I HAVE THE
EMPIRE'S YOKE
AROUND MY NECK.
FOR MY PEOPLE'S
SAKE, I WEAR IT. BUT
THEY MUST THINK
ME A QUEEN.

IF YOU TREAT
ME SO IN FRONT OF
MY SUBORDINATES,
DO YOU THINK THEY'LL
OBEY ME WHEN YOU
LEAVE?

I WILL
TREAT YOU WITH
THE *ILLUSION*
OF RESPECT.

AS LONG
AS YOU DO
NOT DREAM TO
QUESTION ME
IN PUBLIC.

IT'S A
DEAL.



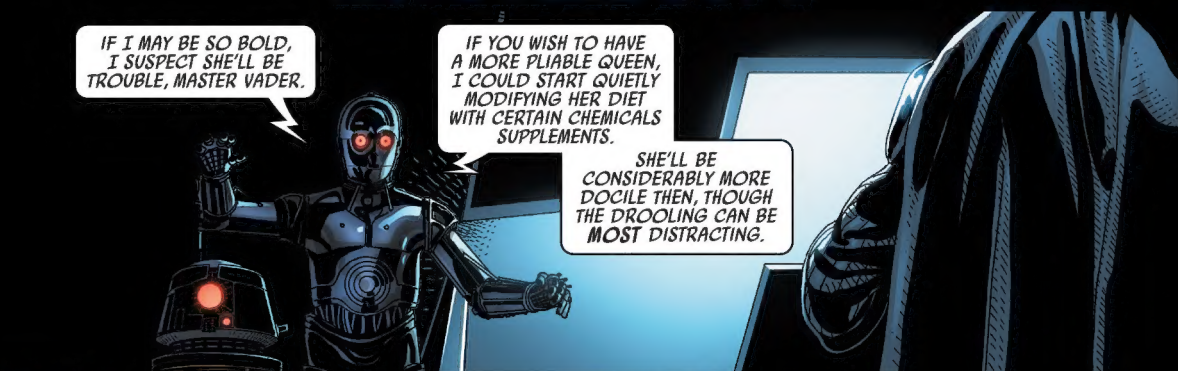
NO.



IT IS
SIMPLY HOW
IT WILL BE.



HMM.
I DO NOT
LIKE HER,
SIR.



IF I MAY BE SO BOLD,
I SUSPECT SHE'LL BE
TROUBLE, MASTER VADER.

IF YOU WISH TO HAVE
A MORE PLIABLE QUEEN,
I COULD START QUIETLY
MODIFYING HER DIET
WITH CERTAIN CHEMICALS
SUPPLEMENTS.

SHE'LL BE
CONSIDERABLY MORE
DOCILE THEN, THOUGH
THE DROOLING CAN BE
MOST DISTRACTING.



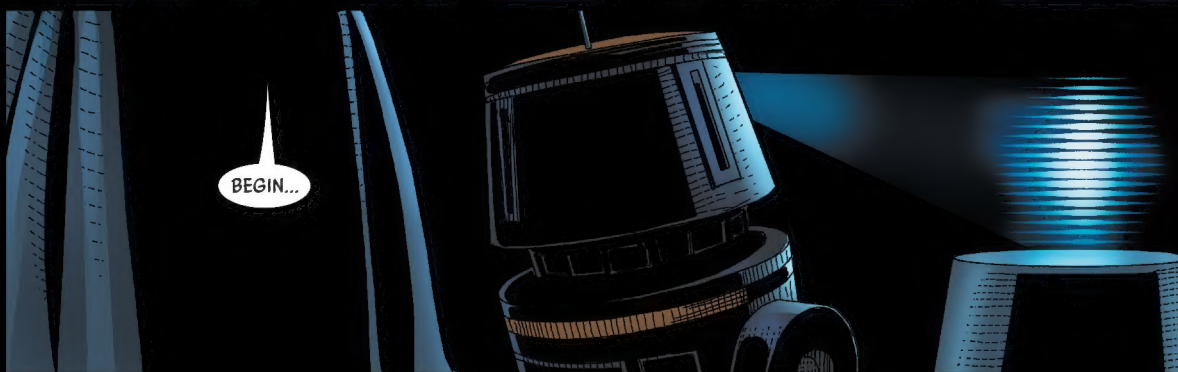
ENOUGH,
TRIPLE-ZERO.
IS IT
PREPARED?

CERTAINLY, LORD
VADER. BEETEE AND I
ARRANGED A BROADCAST.
YOUR IDENTITY WILL
BE SHIELDED.

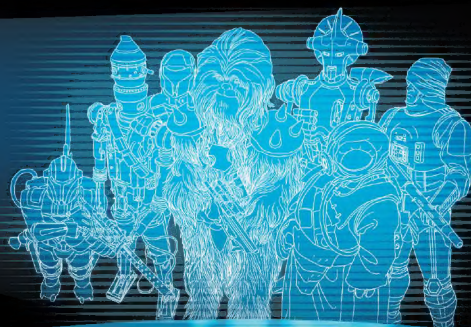
I AM WELL VERSED
IN ALL MANNER OF
CLOAK AND DAGGER
BEHAVIOR.

BLEEP!

YES, MAINLY
DAGGERS,
ADMITTEDLY.



BEGIN...



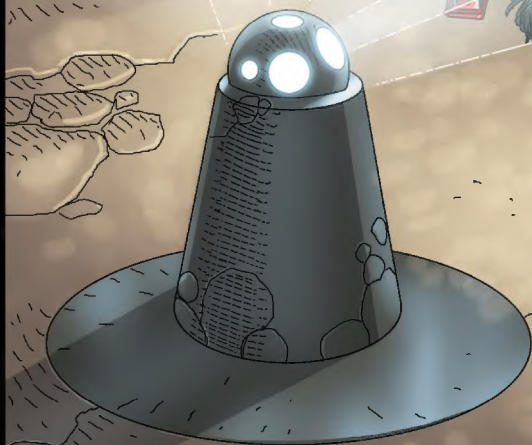
SO...
THE SIZE OF THE
BOUNTY GOT OUR
ATTENTION.

WHO'S THAT
UNLUCKY?

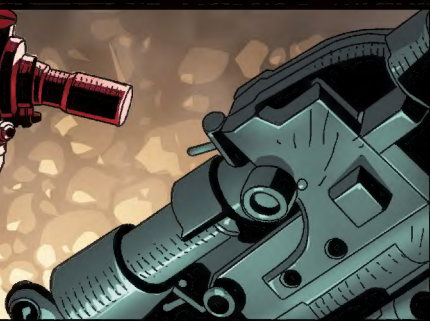
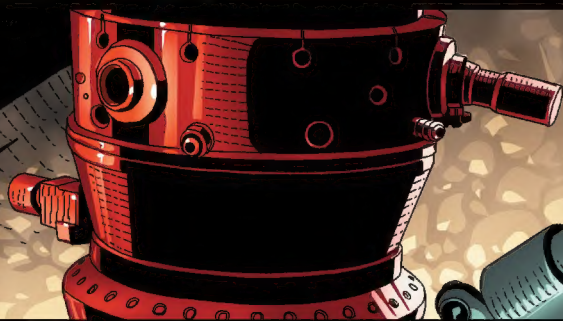
DOCTOR
APHRA.

SHE
IS IN THE
HANDS OF THE
REBELS.

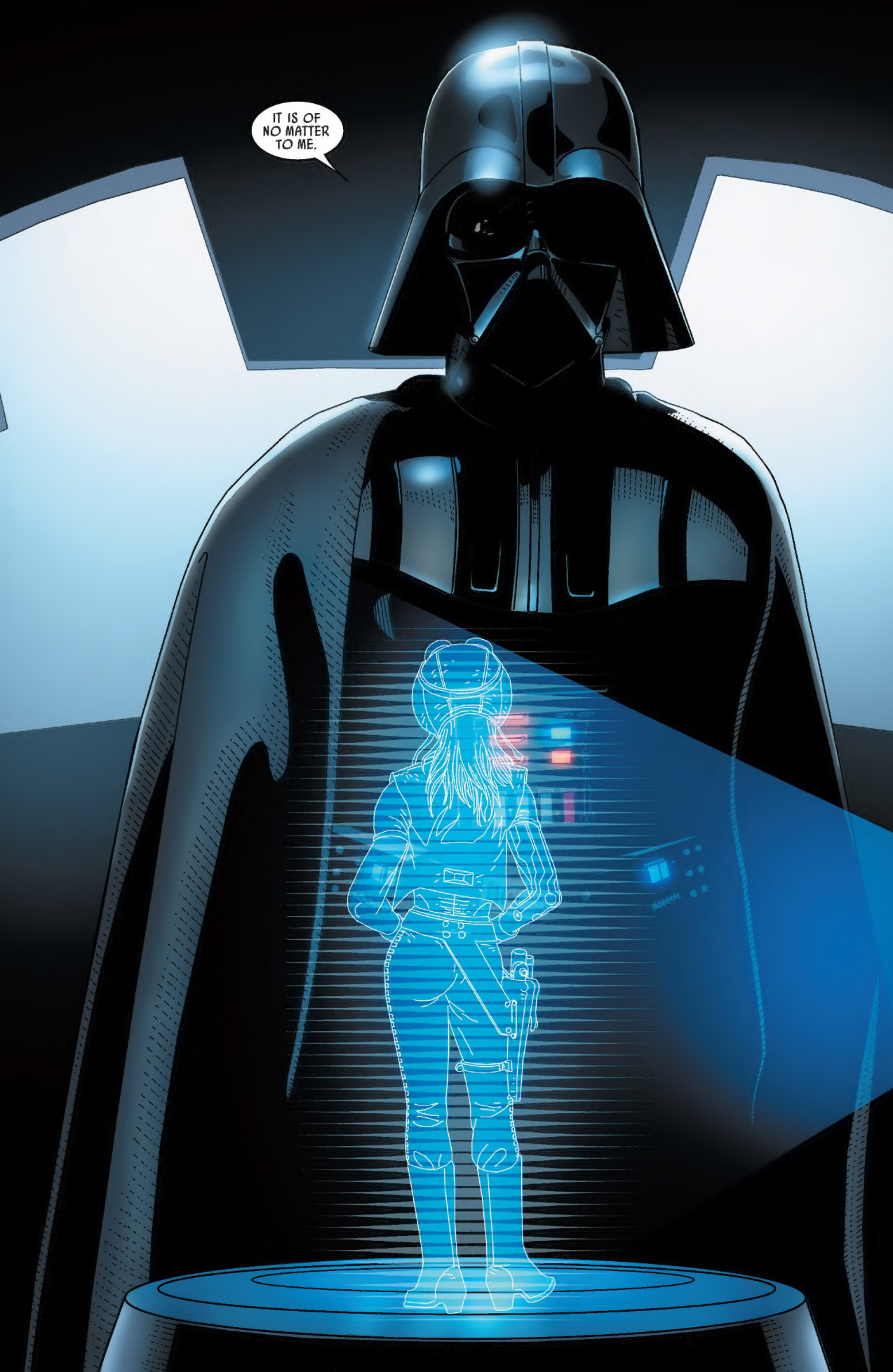
SHE
NEEDS TO BE
FOUND AND
RETURNED.



QUERY:
DEAD OR
ALIVE?



IT IS OF
NO MATTER
TO ME.



DARTH VADER

NEXT ISSUE:

